Docket No.: H9876.0059/P059

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tadayuki Ito

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: December 7, 2000

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

## FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 8, line 17, please change "Fig. 1 is a diagram" to --Figs. 1A and 1B are diagrams--.

Page 8, line 20, please change "Fig. 3 is a diagram" to --Figs. 3A, 3B and 3C are diagrams--.